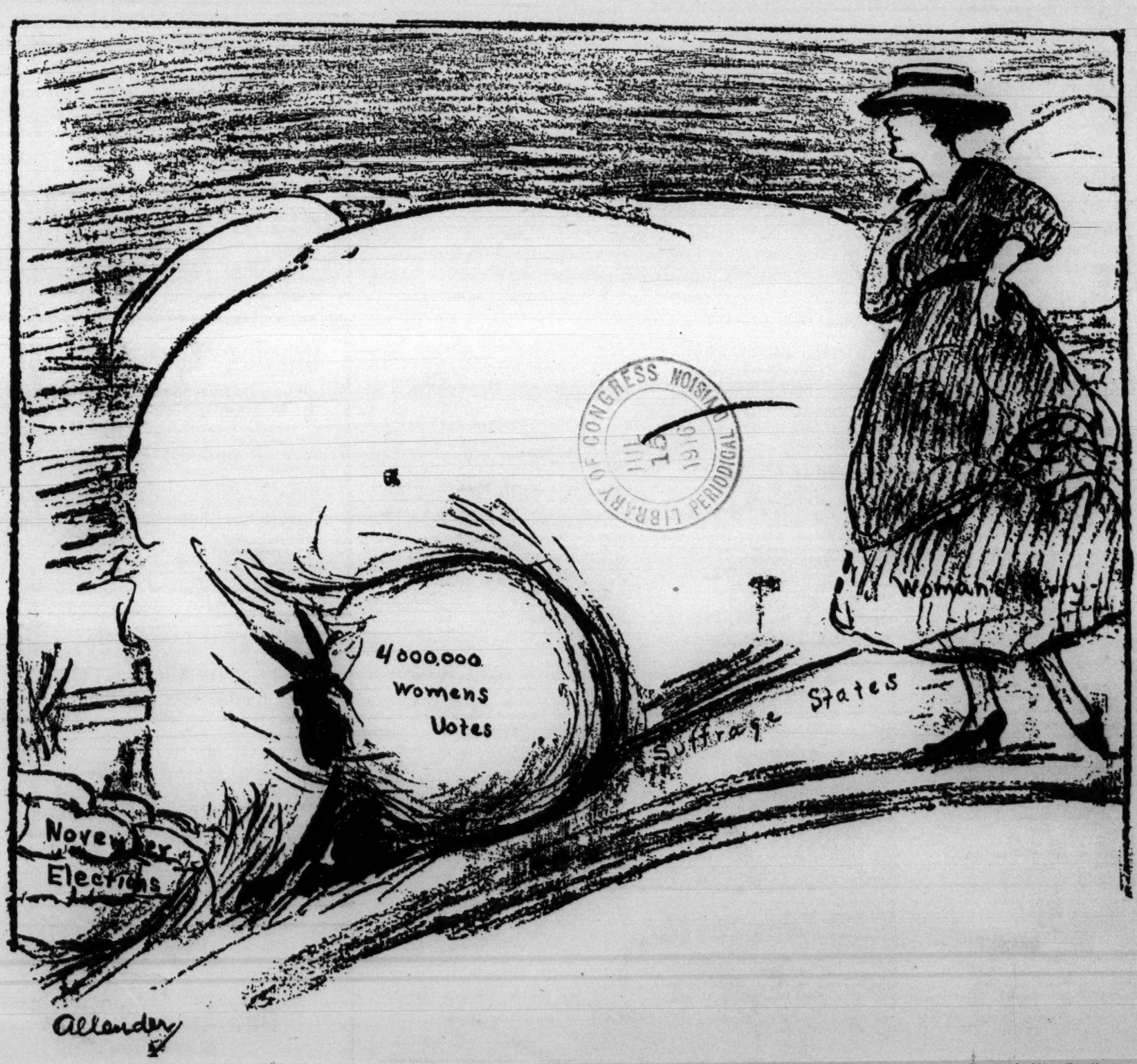
FIVE CENTS

The Suffragist

WEEKLY ORGAN OF THE
CONGRESSIONAL UNION FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE
AND OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

JULY 15, 1916



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Drawn by Nina E. Allender

The Woman's Party Starts the Ball Rolling

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OBJECT: To secure an amendment to the United States Constitution enfranchising women.
MEMBERSHIP: Open to all women who, regarding woman suffrage as the foremost political issue of the day, will support it irrespective of the interests of any national political party.
ENTRANCE FEE: Twenty-five Cents. There are no dues.

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VOL. IV, No. 29

The Suffragist

Weekly Organ of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage and of the Woman's Party
Lafayette, Square, Washington, D. C.

JULY 15, 1916

Notes of the Week

Teachers Favor Federal Suffrage Amendment

A RESOLUTION favoring national woman suffrage was passed at the final session of its annual convention by the National Education Association in New York last week.

"States' Rights" as Practiced by Southern Congressmen

IN a speech on the Revenue bill, reported in the *Congressional Record*, July 7, page 12205, Representative Joseph W. Fordney, of Michigan (Republican), gives some very interesting facts concerning the Democratic control of Congress. He says:

"A majority of the Democratic Party come from states in the south. One hundred and twenty members of your number are from southern states.* * * When you present a party measure or a party bill you go into caucus, for which you criticized the Republican Party for doing before you came into power; you go into caucus, and you are bound by a majority in that caucus, and as a majority of your membership is from the south the south dictates, and you come back with a solid front and pass legislation in this House and in the other branch of Congress. * * *

"What does this bill do for you? Let me show you what was paid in corporation and income taxes by those twelve states of the south, from which comes the majority on that side of the House. Of the corporation tax last year your people in those states paid only 10.9 per cent of all the corporation tax collected. The state of New York alone paid more than twice as much as you, twice as much as all the people of the south.

"And how about the individual income tax? Your states—and I will name them: Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, and Texas—with twenty-seven per cent of our total population, paid 6.4 per cent of the individual income tax. So it does not worry you how much the individual pays upon the individual income tax. You do not have to pay it. * * *

"Gentlemen, those are important things for you to consider. You are imposing a tax upon the people of the North because you can. You have the power; you have the votes. Votes count here; argument does not count for much."

Democrats must surely realize how ridiculous it is for them to say to suffragists that they do not believe in a federal suffrage amendment because three-fourths of the states might "force" suffrage on an unwilling one-fourth! The representatives of twelve states have a controlling influence in enacting legislation for the entire forty-eight, every time a bill passes Congress.

Mexican Situation Political Capital

LEADERS of both parties in the national capital are talking about the Mexican situation in terms of votes. "Will war with Mexico bring Wilson votes, or will it hurt his chances for re-election?" has been the first consideration of political leaders for the past week. The horror of a possible conflict, it is shocking to note, is only a secondary consideration for the professional politicians.

What a mockery, then, to say that women should not vote because the political situation is "critical!" Because the political situation is critical, and because only votes count in deciding it, the need for the national enfranchisement of women is urgent.

And They'll Vote in November for "Suffrage First"

THE Kansas City *Times* says in a recent number, "Women are playing a more important part in saving Kansas' wheat crop this year than ever before." The article goes on to say that several hundred women have been seen out in the fields harvesting the enormous crops of wheat and oats which the state has raised this year.

Southern Congressmen Object to Federal Aid in Fighting Epidemic

THE epidemic of infantile paralysis which is now raging in New York City was discussed in the House last Saturday when Representative Siegel, of New York, asked unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of a resolution authorizing the Department of Labor to extend to the city of New York the use of federal hospital buildings at Ellis Island which are now empty and unused.

The number of cases of the disease as reported in New York City alone the day before the discussion was 892, the total number of deaths being at that time 205. No less than 95 new cases were reported in one day with 22 deaths during the same period, almost one death every hour. The disease has spread over twelve states and into Canada.

But in the face of all this, there was objection on the floor of the House to the use of the empty government buildings for isolating the victims of the disease; amendment after amendment was added to the resolution stipulating that the city of New York and not the federal government should provide the "beds and furniture and appliances" needed in the buildings, and that the federal government should be reimbursed for every bit of property destroyed in them.

The objections were made chiefly by members from southern states led by Mr. Howard, of Georgia, and Mr. Burnett, of Alabama, whose chief thought seemed to be, "Why should the federal government care for these children of New York State?"

Yet these same gentlemen who protested last Saturday against the expenditure of one penny of federal revenue to stamp out a dangerous epidemic within the borders of one state, willingly voted for a good roads bill, signed by the President last Tuesday, which appropriated $85,000,000 from the federal treasury to be spent in improvement upon roads within state borders.

British Women Present Suffrage Memorial to Prime Minister

IN view of the possibility of the adoption of a registration bill by the English government which would enfranchise all soldiers and sailors now fighting in the service of their country, a number of suffrage societies and leading trade unionists have presented to the prime minister a memorial praying that women, whose services during the war have been scarcely if at all less than those of the men serving with the colors, shall be included in the scope of the measure or brought in under a separate bill.

The demand is not unreasonable, and one which is likely to meet with a very wide sympathy from numbers of people who before the war were indifferent or even hostile to the enfranchisement of women.

Women Replacing Men in English Government Offices

THE New York *Call* of July 11 prints the following London dispatch:

"Whitehall, Great Britain's official governmental nerve center, is soon to be ruled by women, it was announced today. With conscription enacted, steps are being taken to clear all government departments of young men eligible for military service. Women are being trained to take their places.

"In exceptional cases a few governmental offices will retain their indispensable males, but the latter will remain principally to train the women."

Woman Physicians in the War

A RECENT magazine article by William J. Robinson, a well-known physician, says:

"Among the belligerent nations abroad, the widespread enlistment of medical men in the services of their various countries has opened up hitherto undreamed of opportunities for women practitioners. One prominent hospital in England requests from the London School of Medicine for Women, 'Any women at any salary.' The medical journals are full of enticing advertisements and the salaries offered are in many cases double the amounts formerly fixed."

President Wilson Learns Dissatisfaction of Women Voters

PRESIDENT WILSON recently wrote, in answer to the request of a western woman that he support the federal suffrage amendment, this remarkable statement:

"I have been in frequent conferences with my party associates about the platform declaration with regard to woman suffrage, and sincerely hope that the outcome has been acceptable to you."

His correspondent lost no time in informing him that the Democratic platform declaration with regard to woman suffrage was entirely unacceptable to her and to thousands of other women in the west.

The correspondence took place between the President and Mrs. Sara Bard Field, who is one of the most effective campaigners in the western states and a woman voter with strong leanings toward the Democratic party. Mrs. Field has been sincerely anxious that the Democratic party would pass the federal suffrage amendment on to the state legislatures in this session and take to themselves the permanent glory of assisting the enfranchisement of half the people of this country.

Impelled by her interest in the success of the Democratic party as well as by her devotion to the idea of woman suffrage, Mrs. Field sent a telegram to President Wilson urging him to support the federal suffrage amendment and promising that, if the Democratic party made it possible for her to do so by acknowledging women's national rights, she herself would gladly campaign for him in the western states without remuneration and would promise the services of at least five other influential Democratic women.

Sara Bard Field

The letter addressed to Mrs. Field by the President in answer to this telegram read in full:

"Dear Mrs. Field: Your frank and friendly telegram of June 12 sent from St. Louis was warmly appreciated.

"I have been in frequent conferences with my party associates about the platform declaration with regard to woman suffrage and sincerely hope the outcome has been acceptable to you.

"In haste, with sincerest appreciation,

"Cordially yours,

"WOODROW WILSON."

To this letter Mrs. Field replied:

"I am sorry to have to tell you that not only is the platform declaration not acceptable to me and to hundreds of thousands of voting women of the west, but that we also greatly deprecate the interpretation which you gave of this plank to Mrs. D. E. Hooker, of Richmond.

"It is my sincere hope as a Democratic woman that you will not allow any menace to the Democratic party in the fall election through your unwillingness to face the desire of the west for speedy action upon the Susan B. Anthony amendment."

Democratic Hypocrisy About States' Rights

By Mary Ritter Beard

THE Democratic party, with tireless reiteration, now declares that the settlement of the issue of woman suffrage is exclusively a state affair. The Democratic party declares that all its own traditions and the traditions of the country demand its unfaltering allegiance to states' rights. The Democratic party declares that the federal government must not be used to rob home rule of women of its ancient sanctity, or interfere in any way with local notions about the matter. In other words, the Democratic party maintains that the federal government, as long as it is in control, cannot assist in the establishment of freedom for American women.

Yet this very Democratic party, whenever opportunity has offered, has sought to use the federal government to *prevent* favorable action by the states in the matter of woman suffrage. The Democratic party cannot assist in the establishment of equal suffrage; but it can work actively for its disestablishment. Its national policy has not been one of *laissez faire*, in spite of the present pretensions. Any method that can prevent or delay political liberty is to the Democratic party the method to be used.

The record of the Democratic party during the present administration is known throughout the length and breadth of this land, and wherever intelligent women read and think. The record of the Democratic party in previous administrations may not be as well known. It must be reproduced here from the pages of the *History of Woman Suffrage* and the *Congressional Record* in order to show the hollow mockery of the states' rights shibboleth that is aired with such finality at the national capital.

Federal Democratic Officials Disfranchise Washington Women

The Democrats were put to the test three times. In three territories women voted between 1880 and 1890. In the Acts of Congress, under which the territories were organized, women were accepted as voters in Wyoming in 1869 and in Utah in 1870.

The Act of Congress which organized the territory of Washington specifically stated that, at elections subsequent to the first, "all persons should be allowed to vote upon whom the territorial legislature might confer the elective franchise." Washington accordingly enfranchised its women in 1883. Just before the legislature of Washington convened in 1886, the constitutionality of the equal suffrage law was questioned at the instigation of the liquor interests, as is definitely known. In order to remove all doubt of the validity of the law, a strengthening act was passed by the legislature and signed by the governor.

By 1887, then, women had been voting with interest and intelligence in Wyoming for seventeen years, in Utah for sixteen, and in Washington for three years. The territorial legislatures had not thought of changing this situation. At that time the Democrats were in possession of the national government, and President Cleveland appointed the Chief Justice and a majority of the Supreme Court of Washington territory. All these men were opposed to woman suffrage. They declared the woman suffrage bill unconstitutional because the law had not been fully described in its title. To meet this objection, the territorial legislature re-enacted the suffrage bill; but the federal officials were not satisfied. Washington was seeking statehood, and the constitutional convention was to be called. In order that women might be deprived of the right to choose delegates to that convention and thus exert direct influence on a permanent suffrage provision when Washington should be accepted as a state, the federal Democratic officials decided that it was beyond the power of a territorial legislature to enfranchise women, taking the ground that in giving the legislature the right to regulate suffrage, Congress did not at the time have specifically in mind that the legislature might enfranchise women, and that therefore it could not do so. The women who had been voting were at once deprived of the right by federal Democratic action, because they had been "setting the community by the ears" on the liquor question. It was estimated that four-fifths of all the women of the territory had gone to the polls in the preceding election. The liquor interests got more control accordingly over the convention than they had had over the legislature, which women had helped to elect; and they maintained this control at the polls where the new constitution was ratified. Washington therefore came into the Union without equal suffrage.

Congress Attempts to Disfranchise Women of Wyoming

When Wyoming sought admission to the Union in 1890, it declared its intention of perpetuating in its new constitution the provision for the franchise under which women voted equally with men. Democrats fought its admission into the Union on the ground that the woman suffrage provision was one that Congress could not recognize. Joseph Washington, of Tennessee, was one of the Congressmen who stated the opposition: "My chief objection to the admission of Wyoming is the suffrage article in the constitution. I am unalterably opposed to female suffrage in any form. * * * I have no doubt that in Wyoming to-day women vote in as many precincts as they can reach on horseback or on foot after changing their frocks and bustles. * * * Tennessee has not yet adopted any of these newfangled ideas, not that we are lacking in respect for true and exalted womanhood."

William C. Oates, of Alabama, was another opponent. He closed his harangue by declaring that the government would break to pieces of its own weight if universal suffrage should prevail.

The delegate to Congress from the territory, Joseph Carey, who championed the suffrage clause, lost hope that Wyoming would be admitted as a state with the suffrage provision. He wired home that it seemed that the clause must be eliminated. Back came the answer: "We will remain out of the Union a hundred years rather than come in without woman suffrage."

The fight in the Senate was especially acute from the first, and renewed with intensity when the determined spirit of Wyoming was made manifest. While the bill for admission was reported favorably in January 1890, it was June 25 before it reached a genuine debate. When discussion finally came, woman suffrage was the one target for the opponents of admission. George V. Vest, of Missouri said: "If there were no other reason with me, I would vote against the admission of Wyoming because it had that feature in its constitution."

John H. Reagan, of Texas, made the usual platitudinous speech against equal suffrage; John Morgan, of Alabama, was most sarcastic in a long at-

(Continued on Page 10)

The Congressional Union Organizes in North Dakota

Mrs. Charles F. Amidon
North Dakota Member Advisory Council

Mrs. Elizabeth Darrow O'Neil
Chairman North Dakota Congressional Union

Miss Vivian Pierce
National Organizer

A BRANCH of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage was this week organized in North Dakota, drawing into its ranks not only the notable suffrage figures of the state, but prominent women who, since the defeat of suffrage in North Dakota two years ago, had half-heartedly turned their attention to club and civic activities. All through the state an attempt had been made to keep alive the suffrage league; but the membership and interest were rapidly dwindling, until an organizing committee assembled a few weeks ago to bring about the formation of the Congressional Union for active co-operation with the Woman's Party in the event of a campaign this fall in the west.

On this committee were the following women: Mrs. Charles F. Amidon, wife of Federal Judge Amidon; Mrs. Frank J. Thompson, president of the Fine Arts Club, the largest woman's organization in North Dakota; Mrs. Mary Darrow Weible and Mrs. Elizabeth Darrow O'Neil, both daughters of the late Mrs. Clara Louise Darrow, the woman leader of North Dakota, who founded and was president of the Votes for Women League of North Dakota as long as she lived; Mrs. R. M. Pollock, a prominent W. C. T. U. leader and club woman; Mrs. L. S. Sheldon, an assistant city factory inspector and leader in civic work; Mrs. H. L. Bolley, wife of Professor Bolley, of the State Agricultural College; Mrs. Emma S. Pierce, treasurer of the Votes for Women League; Mrs. A. E. Bestic, Mrs. D. Fisher, Mrs. J. L. Carter, Mrs. Leonora Gordon Foy, formerly with the Manhattan Opera Company of New York; Mrs. I. Herbst, Mrs. H. S. Von Sien, Mrs. A. F. Colwell, leader of the Writer's Section of the Fine Arts Club.

A brisk campaign was planned in the state by this committee. It extended over nearly three weeks and aroused interest in the work of the Union for the federal amendment and the necessity for immediate activity, in many parts of the state. Miss Vivian Pierce told of the "Suffrage First" policy of the Union,—in Grand Forks, Devil's Lake, Minot, Lakota, Wimbledon and Valley City. Among the women volunteering help were Mrs. Irma Erwin Poppler and Miss Mary MacCumber, of Grand Forks; Mrs. P. G. Miller and Mrs. C. W. Buttz, wife of District Judge Buttz, of Devil's Lake; Mrs. Ara Van Fleet, Mrs. E. O. Dickinson and Mrs. Mary Colcord, of Minot; Miss Minnie Neilson, county school superintendent and president of the state Federation of Women's Clubs, of Valley City; Mrs. Mary Zetterberg and Mrs. S. A. Zimmerman, of Valley City; Mrs. Grace Clendening, president of the state Votes for Women League; Mrs. E. M. Coleman, of Wimbledon; and Miss Aldyth Ward, of Bismarck. In Fargo largely attended meetings were held at the homes of Mrs. A. E. Bestic; Dr. E. M. Darrow and Mrs. Frank J. Thompson. Miss Elsie Hill, who reached Fargo a week before the state organizing conference, held weekly meetings on the streets, arousing hearty interest and co-operation among men as well as women. These meetings were the first suffrage street meetings ever held in Fargo, and the contributions volunteered at these meetings were more than those collected on the streets of the large cities of this country.

The North Dakota conference was held at the Waldorf Hotel, where headquarters were opened two weeks beforehand. The hotel management generously co-operated with the state suffragists, and the lobby was gay with purple, white and gold flags and amendment banners, and crowded with volunteer workers days before the conference. Thousands of announcements and programs were mailed to every part of the state.

A luncheon preceded the conference, which was attended by 140 women, many from remote points. The dining room was decorated for this affair with wild flowers in the three suffrage colors, and Congressional Union flags. The great Congressional Union "Demand Banner" in vivid gold was suspended back of the speaker's table. The conference was held in the same spot directly following the luncheon. Mrs. Grace Clendening, president of the Votes for Women League, struck the keynote of the dinner by her witty and charming opening address.

Mrs. Mary Darrow Weible then proposed the formation of a Congressional Union branch in North Dakota. She described the heart-breaking North Dakota campaign for which her mother, Clara Louise Darrow, North Dakota's pioneer suffragist, had given her time, her money and finally her life. "Though I was born in North Dakota like the Indians," she said, "I have gone through the humiliation of begging them for votes. If we believe in real democracy, we must believe in suffrage; and at this time in federal suffrage, which is just on the horizon. I believe that North Dakota need never pass through another state campaign, and that it is our duty to stand with the Congressional Union behind the Woman's Party in the West."

Mrs. Charles F. Amidon, wife of Federal Judge Amidon, presided at the luncheon, in her introduction paying a beautiful tribute to Mrs. Clara Louise Darrow, whose memory is so dear to the women of North Dakota. The following officers were elected at the conference following the adoption of the Congressional Union branch constitution; state chairman, Mrs. Elizabeth Darrow O'Neil, Fargo; vice-chairmen: Mrs. Minnie L. Nielson, Valley City; Mrs. R. M. Pollock, Fargo; Mrs. J. Ara Van Fleet, Minot; Mrs. A. J. Gronna, wife of Senator Gronna; and Mrs. Frank J. Thompson, president of the Fine Arts Club; secretary, Mrs. H. L. Bolley, wife of Professor Bolley, Fargo; treasurer, Mrs. Irma Erwin Poppler, Grand Forks. Executive Board: Mrs. C. W. Buttz, Devil's Lake, wife of District Judge Buttz, first congressional district; Mrs. E. O. Dickinson, Minot, chairman, second congressional district; Mrs. Alice Mary Darrow Weible, Mrs. A. F. Colwell, all of Fargo.

Women from all parts of the state attended the convention, among them Reverend Eunice Cusick Haly, who travelled from Forman, over two hundred miles from the opposite end of the state. Mrs. Haly is an ordained minister, working with her husband, who is also a minister. She is a suffrage enthusiast, and will form a Congressional Union branch in Forman, and speak in the surrounding towns, as well.

The North Dakota branch of the Congressional Union will maintain a booth at the state fair, with literature and speakers. The committee in charge of this propaganda work are Mrs. O'Neil, chairman, Mrs. L. S. Sheldon, and Mrs. Emma S. Pierce.

Over two hundred dollars was contributed and pledged at the Congressional Union luncheon conference to carry on the work in other states. Mrs. O'Neil and Mrs. Poppler plan to hold meetings in other parts of the state to put before all suffragists the necessity for help at this time.

Mrs. Charles F. Amidon, of North Dakota, has joined the national advisory council of the Congressional Union. Born in North Dakota, a graduate of the University of Minnesota, Mrs. Amidon was a life-long friend of Mrs. Clara Louise Darrow. Her husband was appointed to the federal bench during the Cleveland administration. He has been a Democrat all his life, strongly supporting all the policies of the present administration except the federal suffrage policy.

The Susan B. Anthony Amendment

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to women.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article be proposed to the legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of the said legislatures, shall be valid as part of said Constitution, namely:

"ARTICLE.—SEC. 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"SEC. 2. Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of this article."

THE AMENDMENT IN THE SIXTY-FOURTH CONGRESS

Introduced

In the Senate, on December 7, by Sentors Sutherland, Thomas and Thompson.

In the House, on December 6, by Repsentatives Mondell, Raker, Keating and Hayden.

Referred

In the Senate, to the Committee on Woman Suffrage.

In the House, to the Judiciary Committee.

Reported

In the Senate, January 8, the Sutherland Amendment, known as Senate Joint Resolution No. 1; by a favorable vote.

Present Status

In the Senate, on the calendar, awaiting action.

In the House, before the Judiciary Committee.

HISTORY OF THE AMENDMENT

Drafted

In its present form, by Susan B. Anthony in 1875.

First Introduced

January 10, 1878, by Hon. A. A. Sargent, in the Senate.

Reported from Committee

In the Senate

1878, Adverse majority.
1879, Favorable minority.
1882, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1884, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1886, Favorable majority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1892, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1896, Adverse majority.
1913, Favorable majority.
1914, Favorable majority.
1916, Favorable majority.

In the House

1883, Favorable majority.
1884, Adverse majority, favorable minority.
1886, Favorable minority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1894, Adverse majority.
1914, Without recommendation.

Voted Upon

In the Senate

January 25, 1887. Yeas 16, nays 34. Absent 26 (of whom 4 were announced as for, and 2 against).

March 19, 1914. Yeas 35, nays 34, failing by 11 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

In the House

January 12, 1915. Yeas 174, nays 204, failing by 78 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

The Suffragist

Editor.....Miss Lucy Burns
Assistant Editor.....Miss Joy Young
Art Editor.....Mrs. Nina E. Allender
Business Manager.....Miss S. Ada Flatman
Office Manager.....Miss Elizabeth Smith

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The Rising Tide of Discontent

THE urgency of the suffrage demand is becoming more and more apparent as the Sixty-fourth Congress draws to a close. Women want the federal suffrage amendment passed through Congress and laid before the states in this session; and are impatient of the cruelty and injustice of delay.

Representatives of the Democratic party now find women rising before them asking them to account for the indefensible behavior of the Democrats on the issue of woman's freedom.

When President Wilson was speaking before an assembly of working men and women on July 4, and extolling, in the customary platitudes of political speech-making, the duty of "considering the interests of all classes," he was sharply reminded by one of the women in the audience that the party for whose record he was responsible had opposed the interests of women by blocking action on the federal suffrage amendment.

A multitude of comments over this incident have been heard.

Editorial writers have declared that it was unreasonable to reproach the President for the fate of the federal suffrage amendment, since the President "has nothing to do with the passage of constitutional amendments."

This last criticism, if true, would be the only just ground for complaint against the action of Miss Vernon in Washington last week. But, as every student of politics knows and every newspaper writer ought to know, the fate of a federal amendment, like the fate of every measure that comes before Congress, is controlled by the party in power in Congress, the leader of which is now the President of the United States.

Since the President and his party are directly responsible for the unjust treatment of the constitutional amendment enfranchising women, Miss Vernon's question was entirely to the point, and could not possibly have been put on a better day and occasion than on the day devoted to the celebration of our national independence and chosen for a demonstration of the working people.

The first need of the working people—women and men—is to be free; and when the President of the United States, responsible for the disfranchisement of American women, was addressing an assembly of women workers, it would be indeed extraordinary if he escaped without any reproach for his hostility to their best and most permanent interests.

It is difficult to understand how any woman, viewing such a situation, could pick out for censure, however light, the woman acting in a spirit of the purest justice and in the interests of women, rather than the man who has deliberately opposed justice to women. It is such censures which reveal in a flash the years of subjection and humiliation to which women have accustomed their spirit. They are perpetually on the defensive. No matter under what injustice they suffer they feel it their first duty to avoid displeasing those who are doing them an injustice.

There is only one excuse for the policy of being polite and agreeable under injustice. It is that a little politeness at a critical moment may help to secure favorable action. If the party in power, or the President representing the party in power, were on the point of granting our request, it would be highly desirable that women should not "spill the milk" by any manifestation of impatience.

But there is no indication that the party in power is contemplating any such move. They have controlled legislation since April 1913. They have persistently opposed the federal suffrage amendment. At their convention in St. Louis, representatives of the rank and file of the Democratic party, acting on the instructions of the President, endorsed his record on suffrage and declared once more against the Susan B. Anthony amendment. President Wilson has since that time twice stated that he felt himself bound by the plank he had himself written and that he would continue to oppose federal action on suffrage.

There is evidently nothing to lose by directing the attention of the public to the record of the party in power upon woman suffrage, and there is everything to lose by allowing the general, manufactured hubub of politics to drown out the political grievances of women.

It makes no difference whether the complaints of women against the injustice of the Administration be made according to official etiquette or not. Official etiquette was intended to render the life of an official easy and to protect him from public complaint. It certainly was not intended to assist the people in their struggle to be free. It would be very shallow indeed to judge a manifestation of public discontent by an etiquette book. Throughout the history of civilization, in the slow march of all peoples toward the great and dim ideal of effective self-government, freedom has been won in hard and cruel struggles, sparing neither the class which was opposing the extension of self-government or the class which was advocating it. In the end that group was right that was acting in the interest of popular freedom and that group was wrong that was trying to defeat it.

What would we say today if eighty per cent of the men of this country were disfranchised, as the women are; and the President were personally responsible for their political helplessness, as he is now responsible for the political helplessness of women; and if he appeared before a group of working men saying that it was his duty to serve the interests of all classes,—what would we say of those men if not one out of the thousands before him asked, "Why then do you oppose the interests of working men by denying them the first of all rights—the right to govern themselves?"

It is inspiring to think that a President who opposes the enfranchisement of women cannot now appear with his meaningless phrases about liberty and self-government before an assembly of women without a rebuke.

Mr. Hughes Hears the Case for the Federal Suffrage Amendment

CHARLES EVANS HUGHES, presidential candidate of the Republican and Progressive parties, has recently received a number of women representing the suffrage movement and has listened with keen interest to their statement of the case for federal action on woman suffrage and to their analysis of the political situation of the suffrage movement.

Miss Anne Martin and Mrs. Abby Scott Baker saw and talked to Mr. Hughes at the Hotel Astor on Friday, June 23.

Miss Martin, speaking as chairman of the Woman's Party, told of the organization of the western women for the achievement of national woman suffrage. "In the west," Miss Martin said, "women are not interested in the indorsement of the principle of woman suffrage. That is a political abstraction from which they derive no practical benefit whatever. They are interested in a pledge of action leading to the enfranchisement of women throughout the United States, so as to place woman suffrage on a nation-wide basis and make every woman part of the national constituency having equal power with men over the national legislature."

Mrs. Baker, speaking from the standpoint of an eastern woman, explained the insuperable difficulties, in many cases, of state by state work; and pointed out that the relegation of suffrage activities to the states was not only unconstitutional in theory, but was in effect a plain denial of enfranchisement to women. Mr. Hughes listened to the points raised, though he reserved his final opinion on the question.

Abby Scott Baker

The following Tuesday, June 27, Mrs. Baker and Miss Martin called upon Colonel Roosevelt at Oyster Bay. Colonel Roosevelt received them with the most cordial sympathy and promised that he would certainly suggest, at his first opportunity, that the Republican candidate make a clear-cut declaration in favor of the Susan B. Anthony amendment.

On Wednesday, July 5, Miss Alice Paul saw Mr. Hughes and outlined to him the political situation in which women now found themselves. The Democratic Party has been in power for the past four years and has failed miserably in its dealings with the suffrage issue;—the Republicans need not imagine, however, Miss Paul explained, that as a result of the behavior of the Democrats women will flock to the Republican standard, unless they have some assurance of better treatment at the hands of the Republican party.

"The verdict of New York and other eastern states on woman suffrage last November," said Miss Paul, "is of no importance at the present juncture; the vote in the suffrage referendums was cast on the principle of woman suffrage,—a principle now endorsed in the platforms of every national party. The question we have now under consideration,—whether suffrage can be advanced by a federal amendment,—has not been passed upon at any of the state referendums."

"Mr. Hughes," said Miss Paul, "is very quick and keen, and shows his interest with a boyish spontaneity. He was quite unlike the cold and imposing judge one expected to find. He interrupted all the time!" reported Miss Paul, charmed,—"and so did I. It was delightful."

Call to the First Conference of the Woman's Party

A CALL to the first conference of the Woman's Party in Colorado Springs on August 10, 11 and 12, has been sent out by Miss Anne Martin, chairman, to consider and adopt a plan of action in the presidential campaign next November.

The call, though quietly worded, is momentous in its social meaning:

"We, officers of the National Woman's Party, representing the twelve enfranchised states; in accordance with the authority given us by the national convention of the Woman's Party in Chicago on June fifth, sixth and seventh, call a conference of the members of all state, congressional district, county and local committees of the Woman's Party in the twelve suffrage states, to be held at Colorado Springs, Colorado, on August 10, 11, 12, 1916.

"The purpose of the conference is to decide on measures to be adopted by the Woman's Party in the coming election to win national suffrage for women.

"Women's political power has more than doubled since the last presidential election. In 1912 there were only six suffrage states, with about two million women qualified to vote. These six suffrage states elected only thirty-seven members of the electoral college.

"Today there are twelve suffrage states, controlling ninety-one electoral votes, with over four million women qualified to vote for President. The fact that these states control one-fifth of the electoral college and cast one-third of the votes necessary to elect a President gives women voters the power to determine the election of the next President.

"We ask you, therefore, to meet with us in Colorado Springs, on August 10, 11 and 12, to consider what policy the Woman's Party, working independently of all political organizations, shall adopt in the coming election to secure the submission of the national suffrage amendment.

"(Signed) Anne Martin, Nevada, *chairman.*
Phoebe A. Hearst, California, *first vice-chairman.*
Mary Bartelme, Illinois, *second vice-chairman.*
Mabel Vernon, Nevada, *secretary.*
Lena K. Brown, Colorado, *treasurer.*
Alice Paul, New Jersey, *chairman of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage, ex-officio.*"

The Woman's Party conference will be held in the Hotel Antlers, Colorado Springs, the following program serving as the order of business:

AUGUST 10 THURSDAY

3 p. m. Reception to members of conference and all visiting members by the Woman's Party of Colorado Springs.

8 p. m. Conference on present status of the national suffrage amendment.

The Susan B. Anthony amendment in the Sixty-fourth Congress.

Speakers:
Miss Maud Younger, *California.*
Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles, *Delaware.*
Mrs. William Kent, *California.*
Mrs. Sara Bard Field, *Oregon.*

AUGUST 11 FRIDAY

Conference on election policies to be adopted in the campaign.

Conference on election policy of the National Woman's Party.

Speakers:
Miss Gail Laughlin, *California.*
Mrs. Dora Phelps Buell, *Colorado.*
Miss Mabel Vernon, *Nevada.*
Miss Alice Paul, *New Jersey.*
Miss Anne Martin, *Nevada.*

Presentation of Resolutions.

AUGUST 12 SATURDAY

Conference on the coming campaign.

Conference of state chairmen on campaign plans.

Mrs. Frances Axtell, *Washington.*
Mrs. Dan Casement, *Kansas.*
Mrs. Margaret Zane Cherdron, *Utah.*
Mrs. Bertha Fowler, *Colorado.*
Mrs. C. S. Haire, *Montana.*
Miss Gail Laughlin, *California.*
Dr. Florence Manion, *Oregon.*
Miss Anne Martin, *Nevada.*
Mrs. Robert A. Morton, *Wyoming.*
Mrs. W. H. Sawtelle, *Arizona.*
Mrs. Bertram Sippy, *Illinois.*
Mrs. Frederick Walker, *Idaho.*

Conference of national organizers on organization plans.

The conference is open to members and friends of the National Woman's Party and the Congressional Union.

Organizers working in the west write with enthusiasm of the response given in the western states to the idea of a Woman's Party for national suffrage.

COMMENTS OF

Impressions Left by the Conventions

ASIDE from the demonstrations, how did the conventions rank? For dignity, sincerity, and business-like conduct of its affairs, that of the Woman's Party deserves a high place. In its absence of boisterousness, of timewasting childishness, in its knowledge of precisely what it wanted and how it intended to try to get it, the Woman's Party at Chicago set an example to the men. This must be admitted, whether one sympathizes with this particular policy or not. The manner in which they analyzed the offers of the designated spokesmen of the established parties, cut through them, and openly ridiculed the political cant offered to them, was a delight to witness, a most refreshing change from the sophistries and hypocrisies of the ordinary convention.—*New York Evening Post, June* 17, 1916.

The Woman's Party

THE old difficulty presented by the varying laws and policies of forty-eight states has obtruded itself upon the progress of the votes-for-women movement. The work of amending the constitutions of forty-eight states is proving a difficult task, which is retarding the realization of a cause that has ceased to be debatable. In twelve of these states there is actually no constitutional provision for constitutional conventions. Therefore the advocates of woman suffrage in the twelve states thus tied down to immutability cannot even begin their direct fight for the vote until they have created the machinery for the holding of constitutional conventions.

In view of these and a host of other difficuties the Woman's Party has concentrated its efforts upon the federal constitution. That party—which has come to stay—has realized the full truth that this country can never be an organized entity in a political sense until it has ceased to be a loose conglomeration of forty-eight separate entities with separate and often conflicting laws, separate and often conflicting connections of policy, and separate and often conflicting aims. They want the enfranchisement of women as an act of simple justice, and they want the terms of enfranchisement equal and universal in all the states.

These women have had the vision and the intelligence to see and appreciate the portents of the times. They have grasped the significance of the period through which the country is passing. They have gauged at their true worth the bigness of the issues which the American people are facing. They are eager to do their part in the impending work of nation-building—the work which must be done promptly and well if the forces of disintegration are not to carry the day.

Convinced that the Democratic platform, by its express definition of the suffrage movement as a matter for the states to decide, has blocked the way to Democratic action for the enfranchising of women by federal provision, these women are turning to the Republican party for the achievement of their admittedly patriotic aims.

They are giving the Republican party a great chance to do an epoch-making piece of constructive work—a work for the organization of the country.

The party which prides itself upon its constructive record cannot miss such an opportunity.—*New York Evening Mail, June* 28, 1916.

Women in the Campaign

SOME of the astute politicians are just awakening to the fact that there is a third party, generally unrecognized, that promises to become an important factor in the presidential campaign. Senator Lodge was shrewd enough to recognize this during the time of the Republican convention; and while the Republican party as a whole probably is no more favorable to the suffrage question than is the Democratic, still the former party adopted a more sugar-coated plank in their platform than did the Democratic brethren, who were decidedly outspoken in the matter,—which course seems to have been lacking in diplomacy, if not in chivalry.

Regardless of that fact, the present circumstances are such that the Woman's Party will have to be considered in the coming compaign. Figured up in accordance with the ideas of the best political prophets, the situation is about as follows: There are 531 members in the electoral college, requiring 266 votes for a choice. The so-called Solid South is conceded to President Wilson, a total of 183 votes. The New England and Middle Atlantic states are usually given over to the Republicans, a total of 144 votes. These two added together and the total subtracted from the electoral college vote leaves 204 votes divided up among the western states. Now in order to secure victory it is necessary that the Democrats obtain 83 votes from this section or the Republicans 122. The vital point of the situation is that the Women's Party controls 91 votes in these suffrage states of the west. Will these be thrown for the Democratic party, practically ensuring victory; or will they go for the Republicans, making the contest decidedly close and the outcome doubtful?

The quiet third party, which does not seem to count much in the east, is a factor of no mean proportions in the west. It may not hold the balance of power, but the figures seem to indicate that it comes pretty close to it. At any rate the women will have sufficient influence in the coming campaign to cause some of the political managers a few sleepless nights unless something happens to clear the political horizon between now and then. The little cloud which seemed so harmless is gathering strength as it progresses. The old harmless method of letting the states settle the suffrage proposition by means of referendum seems to be out of date. Congressional action is demanded; and unless it comes, look out for the hurricane.—*Lawrence (Massachusetts) Tribune, July* 1, 1916.

Women Voters and Political Parties

IN the coming campaign, for the first time in the history of this country, every political party stands committed to woman suffrage. This is, of course, a decided advance for the suffrage cause, and it is due to the new-fashioned policies and old-fashioned politics of the Congressional Union, in spite of the fact that both the Republican and Democratic parties took a slap at its stand by asserting that each state has the right to determine the question for itself. * * *—*New York Call, June* 25, 1916.

The New Status of Suffrage

A WASHINGTON dispatch reports that Mr. Hughes is expected to come out, in his speech of acceptance, or later, for the amendment to the federal constitution giving the vote to women. Whether this is true, we have no means of knowing. If Mr. Hughes is converted to the cause of suffrage, it would be natural for him to set about aiding its triumph by means of national action. For he is a strong nationalist. Without any desire to limit or override the rights and functions of the states, his instinct is to appeal in questions affecting the whole country, to a direct exertion of the federal power. In his address before the Bar Association of New York last winter, this tendency of his public thinking was made clearly manifest. And if he has made up his mind that woman suffrage is now a national question pressing for settlement, and exercising a distracting and decisive influence on our political life so long as it remains unsettled, it would not be surprising to find him urging that it be dealt with in a national way.

Whatever may be the attitude of Mr. Hughes, it is certain that woman suffrage has acquired an entirely new status. No longer is it a suppliant at the doors of party conventions. It has gained such strength that both parties have now been compelled to bow to it. To this fact not the due attention has been given in the excitement over candidates, over the European war, and over our possible embroiling with Mexico. To have made a conquest of both Republicans and Democrats in a single year is a signal achievement. It put the suffrage cause forward by a great leap. In both party platforms the principle is conceded. * * *

Yes, but everything was to be left to the states. Extension "by the states" was the Democratic phrase. And the Republicans recognized "the right of each state to settle this question for itself." The intent of this, it is said, was plain. It was meant to head off a suffrage amendment to the federal constitution. But this does not necessarily follow. Even a federal amendment has to be submitted to the states. Passed by a two-thirds' vote in Congress, it still requires ratification by three-fourths of the states. In this sense, and technically speaking, it would be the states that would settle the suffrage question for themselves, even supposing the attempt were made by federal initiative. Thus if any candidate for the Presidency, or any Representative or Senator, is living in mortal terror of violating his party platform by advocating an amendment of the national constitution, let him be reassured! He could salve his conscience and soothe his constituents by stoutly maintaining that this way of extending the franchise was really "by the states."

We would not seriously argue the matter on so narrow a ground. It is not a case for device or subterfuge. Rather must the appeal be to equity and justice and a large view of the nation's true interest. The trick would be for both great parties to endorse woman suffrage without meaning it; to make a promise with no purpose of keeping it. And is it not the fact that to send the women back to fight in state after state—conditions being what they are—is to deal most unfairly by them? If the road to state amendment were open and easy, the case would be different. But in many states the processes of constitutional amendment are made so complex and dilatory that even the getting to a vote is very difficult. A proposed federal amendment, on the contrary, would go quickly and automatically before the legislatures of all the states, so that a decision could be reached at a comparatively early date. The amendment could be made an issue in the election of legislatures, and thus it would be virtually a referendum to the voters. And the point is that a more direct and swift method could be tried than the slow and roundabout effort in separate states.

This is, in few words, the argument for the amendment now pending in Congress. Its effective section is: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex." Thirty years ago, or even ten, such a proposal would have seemed ill-timed and hopeless. But a great transformation has come. Where ten men thought it expedient to give women the vote, a hundred do now. Even convinced opponents of woman suffrage admit that its coming is only a question of time. And with both parties now committed to it—the only hesitation being about the method of making it the law of the land—why should not the new standing and heightened importance of the question be recognized in the broadest national way? It is an obstacle which ought to be got out of the path; so that, this contention being removed, American citizens might be free to devote their energies to the greater public needs, undeterred and undivided by sex.—*New York Evening Post, July* 6, 1916.

THE PRESS

The Woman's Party

THERE are indications that women are to take a more prominent part in the determination of political policies, and in the shaping of national affairs. Even now several thousand women delegates from the suffrage states are forming a political party for the one purpose of enfranchising the women in all states, and are urging the Republican and Progressive parties to place equal suffrage planks in their respective platforms.

It is estimated that 4,000,000 women have the right to cast their ballots in the twelve suffrage states, and that their votes may decide the political destinies of the United States.

It is noticeable that this growing power has induced a more tolerant attitude in the anti-suffrage press, even in the states in which women have not yet gained the right to vote. Ultimately every state in the Union will be obliged to extend this right.

The organization of a Woman's Party at Chicago under the auspices of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage, is significant of the intention of these new voters to enfranchise their sisters in other states by the use of whatever political power they can muster. The platform of the party contains but one plank; the enfranchisement of the women of America through a federal amendment.

As Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont puts it:

"Our duty is to the many millions of women living in the slave states."—*Seattle (Washington) Post Intelligencer, June* 7, 1916.

In Doubt on Suffrage

IN view of the declaration in their platform the Democrats will not feel obligated to pass the resolution providing for the submission of the Susan B. Anthony equal suffrage constitutional amendment to the states.

Both parties have made guarded bids for the votes of 4,000,000 women in twelve suffrage states, and if the women can decide whether the Republicans or the Democrats offer the more promising hope of achievement of their purpose and can unite their forces, they will constitute a formidable element to reckon with in the campaign.—*Chicago (Illinois) Tribune, June* 18, 1916.

A Striking Fact

THE two great national party conventions have met, nominated their candidates, adopted platforms and adjourned. The stage is set for a compaign of interest and importance. But as one looks back to the events of the past few weeks the most striking, one of the most significant things, is the new importance which women and woman suffrage have assumed.

Never before have women played such a part in connection with the national conventions of the two great parties. Never before have the delegates been so inclined to recognize their political importance as a fact accomplished and to hasten to make concessions to it. Never before have deliberations over the nature of a declaration on this issue so occupied the time and attention of the members of the resolutions committees of both the Republican and Democratic parties.

As a result of the recent events equal suffrage goes before the country with its prestige immeasurably strengthened. Recent events indicating a setback for the movement, such as the adverse vote in Iowa, are seen to be mere incidents in a campaign which, as a whole, is steadily moving forward. They are the skirmishes which do not affect the main issue, events which merely mark the field where ultimate victory is assured.

There has naturally been much discussion as to the terms in which the declarations of the two parties have been couched. Terms are important and significant, of course. But at this juncture the all-important thing is the recognition of the movement as it has never been recognized before by either of the great parties as a force to be reckoned with—as an element to be courted.

Washington Evening Star, July 7, 1916

Miss Democracy: "I wonder how he does it!"

Irrespective of the careful wording of the suffrage declarations in the platforms, there is no question that woman suffrage has won a great advance within the last few weeks. It has attained a position which furnishes a logical point of departure for a swifter progress in future.—*Chicago (Illinois) Herald, June* 18, 1916.

The Balance of Power

ONE of the elements of the present presidential campaign that has not been given the attention it merits is the feminine vote. Woman suffrage has now become much more than an airy abstraction. There will be 4,000,000 women eligible to vote next November. More than half of them are "first voters." And inasmuch as it is extremely problematical how they are going to vote, the politicians are viewing them with ever-growing interest, mingled with fear.

There is already in the field a "Woman's Party." What that party stands for has been made known plainly by its Chicago convention, held simultaneously with the Republican and Progressive conventions. It has but a single plank. It stands, at present, for a single purpose—the enfranchisement of all the women in the country, by the same means that enfranchised the negro—an amendment to the federal constitution. * * *

The surest thing about women, in politics or elsewhere, is that you never can tell. And so to the other engrossing features of this spectacular campaign is added the problem of which way the suffrage cat (meaning no disrespect) will jump. The women seem to have the balance of power. If they hang in any considerable numbers, they may decide the election.—*Dallas (Oregon) Chronicle, June* 21, 1916.

Heartnote of Today is Woman Suffrage

IT is, indeed, a great pity that President Wilson, when he was selecting powerful planks for his platform, did not take his courage, his judgment, and his sense of justice in hand and make woman suffrage as strong, as fearless, and as free from doubt as he did his declaration on Americanism. For suffrage is the heartnote of America today, and so thoroughly bound up in true Americanism that you could not separate them with a submarine. For whichever candidate realizes this, gets it fully through his mentality, acts upon it, and, is finally the instrument of this piece of justice through whom it is granted to all the women of America, will not only gain the Presidency of the United States but will become the most famous man of modern history. * * *

Gentlemen: We do not want suffrage on the installment plan—human life is too short. We want the Susan B. Anthony amendment for woman suffrage passed by Congress, and we want the women of all states treated alike. * * *

Gentlemen: We are ashamed of you! You are playing with us as England played with Home Rule. Does it pay? We are willing to love, honor and to trust you; but self-respect demands reciprocity. And we demand one genuine, great American—who can visualize the future; one who will go down in history as the man who made all America free and equal.—*Everywoman (California), July,* 1916.

They're on the Way

THE launching of the new party in Chicago under the auspices of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage may be said to be the last step in the movement to secure votes for women.

The platform is simple:

"The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

In proposing this amendment to the constitution, the women put the issue squarely before the country.

Women have voted on an equal basis with men in Wyoming since 1869. From 1893 to 1896, Colorado, Utah and Idaho adopted the plan. In 1910 the movement gained greater headway with action by Washington, followed by California, Arizona, Kansas, Oregon, Nevada, Montana and Alaska. Illinois has granted partial franchise rights. * * *

The story is told of an ancient king who had his throne taken down to the seashore, and there he sat and commanded the tide not to rise.

The decree might as well go forth that women shall not vote.—*Aurora (Illinois) News, June* 7, 1916.

Fear of Dissension in the Parties

THE Democrats are like the man who thinks to avoid a domestic scene by leaving a note for his wife and retreating to the club. He tries to forget that sooner or later he must face the music. When the Women's Congressional Union gets to work, we fear that among Republicans and Democrats alike there will be in our essentially peace-loving nation an impairment of that domestic tranquillity which the preamble to the United States constitution declares it to be one of its purposes to insure.—*Boise (Idaho) Statesman, June* 19, 1916.

Campaign Throughout the Country

Massachusetts League Votes to Reorganize as Branch of Union

DURING the last week in June the members of the Framingham Equal Suffrage League of Massachusetts, an organization numbering one hundred and twelve active, enthusiastic members, joined the Congressional Union in a body.

The new group of members will be known as the Framingham branch of the thirteenth Massachusetts congressional district of the Congressional Union. Miss Olive Mills Belches, president of the original organization, is chairman of the new branch; and the former members of the executive board of the League will retain their positions as officials of the Congressional Union.

Mrs. Olive Halladay Hasbrouck, one of the Massachusetts vice-chairmen, spoke in Framingham on June 16 by invitation of the members of the League on the work and policy of the Congressional Union.

As a result of that meeting, the organization voted to reorganize as a branch of the Congressional Union. Mrs. Morey went to Framingham on Wednesday and the new organization was founded.

Miss Belches, the new chairman, is one of the most efficient suffrage executives in the state, and with her fellow members will be a wonderful addition to the strength of the state branch.

The newly formed branch starts off with great enthusiasm and vigor, and will undoubtedly make itself felt in the work of pushing the federal suffrage amendment.

On Tuesday, Miss Katharine A. Morey started in a week's work of organizing in parts of the fifth and seventh congressional districts, with Miss Eleanor Calnan of Methuen, who is chairman of those districts. Miss Calnan, who is a most ardent member, had done a fine piece of preparatory work, and afternoon and evening meetings were arranged for Miss Morey in Methuen, Andover, and Lawrence. Editors were called upon and interested to a remarkable degree in the new Woman's Party and the work of the Congressional Union.

A day was spent in Lowell and meetings were arranged for. The first will be a "suffrage picnic" at the summer camp of Mrs. M. E. Hall in Tyngoboro, on July 13.

Miss Morey has organized a branch of the Union in Lawrence, of which Miss Margaret Kennedy is chairman. A meeting to be held July 7 will complete plans for the work of the Lawrence branch.

Miss Julia Hurlbut, vice-chairman of the New Jersey branch, spoke before the Springfield Equal Suffrage League, on Friday evening, June 30.

The quickened interest of Massachusetts women in the work of the Union is shown everywhere. Membership is increasing rapidly and speakers on the methods and aims of the Union are in almost daily demand.

Montana Has Strong Organization at Great Falls

THE Congressional Union is becoming one of the strong factors among the women's organizations of Montana. Ten counties are already organized, including Silverbow, Broadwater, Lewis and Clarke, Hill, Valley and Sheridan.

One of the strongest units is the organization formed early in May at Great Falls. This branch includes the northern central counties. Mrs. M. K. Nelson, of Great Falls, is chairman.

On June 13 the following women were elected at a conference held at Havre, to serve as the officers of the Hill County branch of the Congressional Union: chairman, Mrs. Ida Strannahan; secretary, Mrs. Frank Bosseout; treasurer, Mrs. Edward Brimrose; membership chairman, Miss Lulu Chestnut; chairman for THE SUFFRAGIST, Mrs. C. B. Wilson; vice-chairmen, Mrs. E. J. Peppin, Mrs. James Carnell, Mrs. Raymond Hulfish, Miss Laura Grace Lovett, Mrs. E. E. Henry, Mrs. A. Crosson.

Mrs. John M. Lewis opened her beautiful home in Glasgow for a meeting on June 19. Miss Clara Louise Rowe, state organizer for the Union, was the speaker and explained the aims and policy of the Union. Miss Rowe writes: "At the close of the meeting every woman present joined the Union and pledged her hearty support to the work of the Valley County branch."

A call for a conference of the women voters of Dawson County to be held in the Council Chambers of the City Hall at Glendive, June 30, is signed by Mrs. W. T. Perham, Mrs. Laurena W. Gates, Mrs. Mary Burdick, Mrs. Elizabeth F. Rosenberg, Mrs. Grace Marion Gilmore, and Mrs. R. G. Lowe.

Speaking of the work throughout the state, Miss Rowe says: "The Congressional Union has become well established in Montana and wherever I go I meet groups of women who readily pledge their support to the Union. They are most anxious to hear about the work carried on in the west and to learn the idea of the Woman's Party."

THE SUFFRAGIST at Atlantic City

A BEAUTIFUL shop has been secured for the sale of THE SUFFRAGIST in Atlantic City at the entrance to the Garden Pier. Near the shop a ladies' orchestra has been engaged to play for the whole season, and the seats are so arranged around the band-stand that the audience must look straight into the windows of THE SUFFRAGIST shop which is just beyond the stand.

Who will volunteer their services to help, and while on holiday by the sea help the cause?

Miss Minnie Abbott has kindly consented to keep the shop open all the season; offers of help should be sent to her at 21 Garden Pier, Atlantic City.

Minnesota Branch Holds Annual Convention

THE Annual Convention of the Congressional Union in Minnesota was held June 29 at the Town and Country Club of St. Paul, midway between St. Paul and Minneapolis.

A successful luncheon was served to the guests on the open porches of the club house, and Miss Elsie Hill spoke briefly on recent developments in the work for the passage of the Susan B. Anthony amendment.

The business meeting was conducted in the assembly rooms upstairs. Reports were given of organization during the past year, and Mrs. A. R. Colvin, envoy from Minnesota on the "Suffrage Special," gave an account of the tour of the western states. The following officers were elected: Mrs. A. R. Colvin, of St. Paul, chairman; Mrs. A. H. Potter, of Minneapolis, first vice-chairman; Mrs. H. C. Harrison, of Minneapolis, second vice-chairman; Mrs. Walter Ramsay, of St. Paul, secretary; Mrs. Anne McCoy, of Minneapolis, treasurer; Miss Katherine J. Smith and Mrs. Virginia B. Blythe, of Minneapolis, Mrs C. A. Leverance, Mrs. Frank D. Williams and Miss Anita Furness of St. Paul, members of the executive committee.

At the close of the conference Miss Hill, accompanied by a number of Twin City women, left for Duluth, where a meeting had been arranged by a committee of Duluth women at the Spalding Hotel for Friday afternoon.

Democratic Hypocrisy About States' Rights

By Mary Ritter Beard

(*Continued from Page 4*)

tempt at argument; and other southerners also dwelt upon the adequate protection which women enjoyed under the tutelage of men, wisely refraining from any mention of the actual laws on the statute books of their respective states at that time.

Every means that could be devised to destroy woman suffrage in Wyoming was used by hostile Congressmen, particularly by the Democrats. These all failed.

In advocating the admission of Wyoming as a state, Orville Platt, of Connecticut, chairman of the Senate Committee on Territories, said: "The Senator from Massachusetts, Mr. Hoar, interrogated me, when I was advocating the admission of Washington, as to why we did not incorporate into that enabling act some language that should undo the wrong which had been done by the Supreme Court of the territory and restore to women the right of voting. I said then, as I say now, that I think this is a matter which belongs to the territory; and I am surprised that gentlemen who are so devoted to home rule as a sacred right which should never be interfered with in this republic, should not be willing to allow to a territory, when it asks for admission, the right to determine whether women should or should not be permitted to vote by the constitution of the proposed state. * * * Why should we, the Congress of the United States, stand here and say to that territory, where women have enjoyed the right of voting for twenty years and nobody arises to gainsay it or to intimate that they have not exercised that right wisely,—why should we stand here and say: 'Keep out of the Union; we will let no community, no territory, in here which does not deprive its women of the right they have enjoyed while in a territorial condition?' " Mr. Platt further declared that he did not think the decision of the territorial Supreme Court good law.

Congress Disfranchised Women in Utah Territory

Federal interference with local suffrage arrangements is further shown in the case of Utah. In 1887 Congress arbitrarily disfranchised all the women—Gentile and Mormon alike. They had been voting in the territory for seventeen years. It has been claimed that at the time more women owned their own homes and paid taxes in Utah in proportion to population than in any other community in the country. Utah, like Wyoming, however, stood out for equal suffrage when it came into the Union and Congress was forced to yield a second time.

Throughout the various debates in Congress, the southern opposition to woman suffrage has revealed itself as hostility to women themselves. The thought of woman suffrage anywhere has been very painful to most of these gentlemen. There was no race problem in Wyoming or in Washington or in Utah, so that the effort of men to retain their grip on the mental and physical life of women was demonstrated in unmistakable terms.

Congress has much to atone for in its treatment of American women and the Democrats have an exceptional opportunity in which to free their own record from the blots upon its pages.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer: Miss Joy L. Webster
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Total collected by National Headquarters through July 8, 1916	$139,225.12
Contributions made to New Jersey Headquarters	
Mrs. Seward	3.00
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Women's Political Union of Morristown	32.16
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Total	64.16
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Total collected by the Branches through June 8, 1916	$15,056.51
General Total	$154,281.63

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Mrs. Alexis Moschowitz	10.00
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A Vacation Reminder

WHEN packing for your summer holiday, do not fail to put into your trunk or suit-case a supply of Congressional Union or Woman's Party membership blanks, SUFFRAGIST subscription blanks, pledge blanks, and an assortment of *Federal Amendment* suffrage literature obtainable at your state headquarters or from the National Literature Chairman, Miss Marie Ernst Kennedy, 213 Hale Building, Philadelphia. For the outside of your baggage, there are neat labels and tags in purple, white, and gold, inscribed, "Congressional Union, Suffrage First and Now."

A number of dodgers which are necessary for a thorough understanding of the work for a federal suffrage amendment are free, and thousands should be distributed during the summer. They may be obtained from your state chairman or from Miss Kennedy.

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